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IS THIS GUY THE FATHER OF MJ'S KIDS? {page 10}

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Thursday, March 21, 2013

- Pennsylvania's counties are ranked, and it's true — Philadelphia is unhealthiest of all 67
- Geography, class and culture have everything to do with it, study shows {page 02}

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In the news

20

The number of homes in the Mantua section of West Philadelphia on which Rebuilding Together Philadelphia performed critical repairs during the yearly West Philadelphia Block Build.

Roofs, windows, walls, floors, ceilings and more were upgraded for the homeowners. Nearly 300 people volunteered to help with the repairs. "The energy here has been amazing," said Jim Coburn, operations manager for RTP.

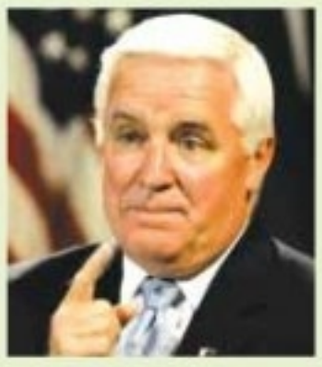
METRO

Local tweet

"The Philadelphia Flyers are in the same position as the Titanic right now. At the bottom of the Atlantic."

@WHEELINGPROBS FINDS THE TEAM IN AN HISTORICALLY UNENVIABLE POSITION.

In the news



Corbett is highest-paid governor in US

Tom Corbett is America's highest-paid governor, a California panel has determined.

Corbett's $183,255 salary as Pennsylvania's top elected official put him at No. 1 on the list of governors' salaries for 2012, the Los Angeles Times reports.

The California Citizens Compensation Commission survey also found that Pennsylvania's legislators drew the second-highest base salary ($82,026) in the nation last year. California lawmakers by far had the highest base salary ($95,291).

The California commission called for the survey to help it determine whether to grant pay raises to Gov. Jerry Brown and other state officials. Brown was the seventh highest-paid governor in 2012, with a salary of $173,000.

New Jersey Gov. Chris Christie earned a $175,000 salary in 2012.

METRO

High school gives body spray the 'axe'

Freedom High School stinks. One of its students has a potentially life-threatening allergy to Axe Body Spray, and was even hospitalized recently after excessive exposure to the deodorant, according to a post on the school's website Tuesday. The school requested that all members of the extended school family consider the student's sensitive allergy "and refrain from using it as your cologne or fragrance of choice while attending Freedom High School."

METRO

In sick Philadelphia, money, health share all the brotherly love

Philadelphia is the state's unhealthiest county ◐ Geography, class are biggest factors

RICARD LARMA/METRO

▶ Some people of Kensington, pictured above, don't believe in doctors, one resident said.

A report released yesterday found Philadelphia to be the least healthy of Pennsylvania's 67 counties.

The 2013 County Health Rankings from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation and University of Wisconsin Population Health Institute considered more than two dozen possible health indicators.

They found one of the most dramatic influences to be where a person lives in terms of geography, class and culture.

"Of course money makes a big difference," said Ed Coyle of Society Hill, one of the highest-income ZIP codes in Philadelphia.

"I think culture plays a big part, too," said University of Pennsylvania student Christina Ward.

"I'm from Colorado, which is the healthiest state, and we have a strong culture of exercise and fitness."

Lisa Williams, who lives near McPherson Square Park in one of the city's lowest-income ZIP codes, agreed.

"Education does play a role. If you teach kids from an early age a healthy lifestyle and put them on the right track, they know when something's not right and go to the doctor before something becomes an emergency."

WILLIAMS

"In the black community, a lot of people don't believe in doctors — especially the older generation," she said.

"I still know people that have never gone to the hospital because they can't afford it or they don't trust it will help them."

The rankings further show that access to outdoors greatly improves health.

"I don't feel safe going out, especially at nighttime," said Mirna Santiago, who also lives near McPherson Square.

In contrast, Coyle said he enjoys the outdoors.

"If I lived in a neighborhood where there was a high level of crime, I'd probably be more cautious about what about what I do, where I go and who's around me," he said.

Residents of both neighborhoods had nearly identical responses when asked whether money plays a role in access to health care and quality treatment.

"No money, no health care," Coyle said succinctly.

Philly by the numbers

10K

Years of potential life — 10,492 — were lost before the age of 75 per 100,000 Philadelphians, compared to a statewide average of 6,973

20%

Of Philadelphians reported they were in poor or fair health, compared to a statewide average of 14 percent

39%

Of Philadelphia children live in poverty, compared to a statewide average of 19 percent

1.3K

Philadelphia's violent crime rate is 1,296 per 100,000 residents, compared to a statewide average of 386

6

Philadelphia has six recreational facilities per 100,000 residents, compared to the state's 1.

$24K

The median household income for ZIP code 19134, which covers the Kensington area

Alex Wigglesworth
awigglesworth@metro.us

A tale of two surgeries

Ward, who is also a sponsored Ultimate Frisbee player, had hip surgery less than two weeks ago.

"I went through student health and received excellent care," she said. "They referred me to an orthosurgeon at 8th and Spruce, and the surgery went great. I'm lucky to go to Penn."

In contrast, one woman in Kensington, who declined to give her name, said she recently needed a root canal to remove infected tissue from inside two of her teeth.

"My insurance covered my teeth being pulled, but not a root canal," she said. "They'd rather me walk around with no teeth than pay for treatment."

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Dog-fighting ring discovered in Germantown

GETTY IMAGES

Seven dogs and three cats were removed from a home in Germantown on Tuesday after police found evidence of a dog-fighting ring, authorities said.

Police were called for a disturbance on North Norwood Street around 4 p.m., and discovered a mix of pit bulls and bulldogs with old scars and one with fresh wounds.

SPCA officers found blood splattered on the walls. Authorities also discovered what looked to be a fighting ring in a vacant home next door.

"If you go upstairs to the front bedroom, the bedroom is totally empty — there's no furniture in there — but it was used as a ring. There's blood all over the walls," said George Bengal, director of humane law enforcement for the state SPCA, in a news release. All the dogs are being examined by the SPCA. Police took one man into custody after they found a stolen motorcycle, drugs and other weapons.

No charges have been filed, and the SPCA continues to investigate.

Tommy Rowan
letters@metro.us

Fights rising

The Pennsylvania SPCA has seen the number of dog-fighting cases in the city more than double in the last four to five years.

Is fighting a problem here?

The Pennsylvania SPCA investigates dog-fighting rings in Philly on a routine basis, said spokeswoman Wendy Marano.

Last year the group investigated around 1,000 reports here.

"It's very prominent, it's very lucrative," she said. But dog fighting in urban areas?

"It's a perfect place to have it," she said, "because the dogs actually make very little noise."

In January, the SPCA found six fresh carcasses in an abandoned South Philadelphia building that were suspected to have been involved in dog fighting.

"It's really very prevalent, and it's very big in urban areas. The fights will move from place to place to place, and usually if it's in the neighborhood it will only sound like there's a party going on."

Center City. Fun

▶ A child enjoys the Philadelphia Park Liberty Carousel at Franklin Square.

CHARLES MOSTOLLER/METRO

Around and around — with a big smile

Sylvia Rudolph, 3, from Collingswood, N.J., enjoys a free ride on the Philadelphia Park Liberty Carousel at Franklin Square yesterday as part of the Franklin Square season kick-off event in Center City. METRO

In the news

Three hurt in takeout gunfire

WEST OAK LANE. Three men were shot inside China House Takeout shortly before 10:30 p.m. Tuesday.

First responders were told private vehicles had already driven three shooting victims to Albert Einstein Medical Center. The victims told police that an unknown man pulled out a handgun and tried to enter China House. The men pushed the door shut, but the suspect repeatedly fired through the glass while continuing to try to gain entry. He was unsuccessful and fled. One victim, 22, ran home and was taken to the hospital by his mother.

A 19-year-old man and a 21-year-old man ran to Bouvier Street, where the older man's father drove them to the hospital. All three were shot but are in stable condition. METRO

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Hospital: Man kills his wife, then kills self

A patient at a Lehigh Valley hospital was shot and killed Tuesday by her elderly husband, who then killed himself in an apparent murder-suicide, hospital officials said.

The shooting took place at the hospice inpatient unit at Lehigh Valley Hospital in Allentown, in eastern Pennsylvania, at about 1 p.m., according to a statement from hospital spokesman Chuck Lewis. No other patients or staff were injured.

"A hospice patient was shot and killed by her elderly husband," it said, without disclosing their identities or the state of the wife's health before she was killed. "The gentleman died from a self-inflicted gunshot wound."

A spokesman for the Allentown Police Department was not immediately available.

"This is a very tragic event and our hearts go out to the family of the deceased and our Lehigh Valley Health Network colleagues who were involved," hospital officials said. **REUTERS**

Quoted

"This is a very tragic event and our hearts go out to the family of the deceased and our Lehigh Valley Health Network colleagues who were involved."

HOSPITAL SPOKESPERSON

Spring. First day

▶ A free Rita's water ice may be the best break-time snack of all.

CHARLES MOSTOLLER/METRO

Ice ... Custard ... Happiness. And it's free

Rita's employee Malia Makaila serves Rafael Palasol at the Rita's on Spruce Street in Center City yesterday afternoon. Yesterday marked the first day of spring, and we all know what that means: free icy treats from Rita's. Too bad it's 40 degrees outside. When is that "out like a lamb" supposed to kick in? METRO

News in brief

Man charged with killing father in front of son

The man alleged to have murdered a 45-year-old father in front of his 5-year-old son two days before Christmas is in police custody.

Jahmir Harris, 23, of the 1600 block of Ringgold Street, was arrested and charged with the murder of Louis Porter.

Porter was shot in the head while sitting inside his vehicle with his son outside a Walgreens Pharmacy at the 2300 block of Oregon Avenue on Dec. 23. Porter's son was not injured.

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Obama arrives in Israel, vows undying US support

GETTY IMAGES

▶ Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and President Barack Obama reach out to shake hands.

Making his first official visit to Israel, U.S. President Barack Obama pledged yesterday enduring support for the Jewish State, where concern over a nuclear-armed Iran has clouded U.S.-Israeli relations.

He also stressed the need for Middle East peace at the start of a three-day trip, which is aimed at resetting strained relations with both the Israelis and Palestinians, but is not expected to provide new initiatives or substantial policy moves.

Atomic Iran

▶ Obama said last week that he believes Iran is more than a year away from developing an atomic weapon and is counseling nervous Israelis to show patience.

Descending from Air Force One in bright spring sunshine, Obama briefly embraced Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, with whom he has a notoriously testy relationship, before offering smiles and handshakes to waiting ministers.

"I see this visit as an opportunity to reaffirm the unbreakable bond between our nations, to restate America's unwavering commitment to Israel's security and to speak directly to the people of Israel and to your neighbors," Obama said at a red-carpet welcoming ceremony at the Tel Aviv airport.

Obama faces strong doubts among Israelis over his promise to prevent Iran from obtaining a nuclear bomb, as well as anxiety that the civil war in neighboring Syria might spill over the border, with Western powers reluctant to get involved. **REUTERS**

In the news

Palestinian protests spring up against Obama visit

Palestinian activists set up a protest camp yesterday close to where Israel wants to build a new settlement in the occupied West Bank, drawing attention to their struggle during a visit to the region by U.S. President Barack Obama. More than 100 demonstrators erected four large, steel-framed tents and a massive Palestinian flag on the rugged, rocky tract near Jerusalem, just as Obama arrived in nearby Tel Aviv for three days of talks and meetings. "We are here to send a message to President Obama: Our struggle, our nonviolent, peaceful resistance will continue until we are free," said senior Palestinian politician Mustafa Barghouthi, standing on the windy outcrop. **REUTERS**

▶ A Palestinian activist throws a shoe at a poster of President Barack Obama.

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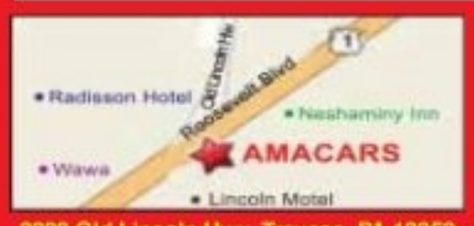

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Public gets Free TV with no monthly bills

Federal law makes TV network giants broadcast Free TV signals regionally in crystal clear digital picture in all 50 states allowing U.S. households to pull in Free TV with a new micro antenna device engineered to pull in nothing but Free TV channels with no cable, satellite or internet connection and no monthly bills

Who Gets Free TV: Listed below are the Philadelphia area zip codes that can get Free over the air TV channels. If you find the first two digits of your zip code immediately call: **1-888-752-7147**

PENNSYLVANIA - Today's announcement by CompTek has the Free TV Hotlines ringing off the hook.

That's because Philadelphia area residents who find their zip code listed in today's publication are getting Free TV channels thanks to an amazing razor-thin invention called Clear-Cast™.

Philadelphia area residents who call the Toll Free Hotlines before the 48-hour order deadline to get Clear-Cast can pull in Free TV channels with crystal clear digital picture and no monthly bills.

This announcement is being so widely advertised because a U.S. Federal law makes TV broadcasters transmit their signals in digital format, which allows everyone to receive these over-the-air digital signals for free with no monthly bills.

Here's how it works. Clear-Cast, the new micro antenna device with advanced technology links up directly to pull in the Free TV signals being broadcast in your area with crystal clear digital picture and no monthly bills.

Clear-Cast was invented by a renowned NASA Space Technology Hall of Fame scientist who currently holds 23 U.S. Gov't issued patents. For the past 20 years, he has specialized in developing antenna systems for NASA, Motorola, XM Satellite Radio and companies around the world.

His latest patent-pending invention, Clear-Cast, is a new micro antenna device engineered to pull in the Free TV signals through advanced technology with no cable, satellite or internet connection and no monthly bills.

"Clear-Cast is being released to the general public because we just don't think people should keep paying for TV when they can get it for free," said Conrad Miller, Manager of Operations at CompTek.

"There's never a monthly bill to pay and all the channels you get with Clear-Cast are absolutely free. So you see, Clear-Cast is not like cable or satellite. It was engineered to access solely the over-the-air signals that include all the top rated national and regional networks, like ABC, NBC, CBS, FOX, PBS, CW and about 90% of the most watched TV shows like America's Got Talent, NCIS, 60 Minutes, American Idol, The Big Bang Theory, The Bachelorette, Person of Interest, CSI, The Mentalist, Two and a Half Men, Sunday Night Football plus news, weather and more all for free with no monthly bills," Miller said.

"That's why Clear-Cast is such a great alternative for everyone who is sick and tired of paying expensive cable and satellite bills every month," he said.

"People who get Clear-Cast will say it feels like getting an extra paycheck every month. You see, with Clear-Cast you'll receive free over-the-air broadcast channels with crystal clear digital picture, not the cable or satellite only channels. So being able to eliminate those channels puts all the money you were spending back in your pocket every month," Miller said.

And here's the best part. The new micro antenna device called Clear-Cast is so technically advanced it pulls in even more of the channels being broadcast in your area for Free with no monthly bills.

That way you can channel surf through the favorite TV shows. The number of shows and channels you'll get depends on where you live. People living in large metropolitan areas may get up to 53 static-free channels, while people in outlying areas will get less. That means even if you're in a rural area that just pulls in NBC, ABC, CBS, FOX and PBS broadcasts there's hundreds of shows each year to watch for free.

Consumers report that the crystal clear picture quality with Clear-Cast is the best they've ever seen. That's because you get virtually all pure uncompressed signals direct from the broadcasters for free.

Clear-Cast was engineered to link up directly like a huge outdoor directional antenna but in a lightweight, slim-line package. Its sturdy copper alloy and polymer construction will most likely far outlast your TV.

It just couldn't be any easier to get Free over-the-air digital TV shows with Clear-Cast. Simply plug it into your TV, place Clear-Cast on a window pane and run autoscan. It works on virtually any model TV and is easily hidden out of sight behind a curtain or window treatment.

NEVER PAY A BILL AGAIN: Pennsylvanians will be on the lookout for their postal carrier because thousands of Clear-Casts will soon be delivered to lucky Philadelphia area residents who beat the 48-hour order deadline and live in any of the zip code areas listed below. Everyone is getting Clear-Cast because it pulls in nothing but Free TV channels with no cable, satellite or internet connection and no monthly bills.

Thousands of Philadelphia area residents are expected to call to get Clear-Cast because it just doesn't make any sense to keep paying for TV when you can get hundreds of shows absolutely free.

So, Philadelphia area residents lucky enough to find their zip code listed in today's publication need to immediately call the Free TV Hotline before the 48-hour deadline to get Clear-Cast that pulls in Free TV with crystal clear digital picture. If lines are busy keep trying, all calls will be answered. ■

How to get Free TV: Listed below are the Philadelphia area zip codes that can get Free TV channels with no monthly bills. If you find the first two digits of your zip code immediately call **1-888-752-7147** beginning at precisely 8:30am this morning. Today's announcement photo above shows just a handful of the major over-the-air broadcast networks you can receive with Clear-Cast for free. It saves a ton of money by not picking up expensive cable only channels like ESPN so there's never a monthly bill. This is all possible because a U.S. Federal Law makes TV broadcasters transmit their signals in digital format, which allows everyone to use Clear-Cast to pull in Free TV channels with no monthly bills. CompTek is giving every U.S. household a 50% off discount to help cover the cost of Clear-Cast. Clear-Cast, the new micro antenna device is a one-time purchase that plugs in to your TV to pull in Free TV channels in crystal clear digital picture with no monthly bills. Each Clear-Cast normally costs $98, but U.S. households who beat the 48-hour deadline are authorized to get a 50% off discount for each Clear-Cast and cover just $49 and shipping as long as they call the Free TV Hotline at **1-888-752-7147** before the deadline ends or online at www.clear-cast.com. Trademarks and programs are the property of their respective owners and are not affiliated with or endorsing Clear-Cast. **XS296**

Alabama 35, 36	Colorado 80, 81	Idaho 83	Kentucky 40, 41, 42	Michigan 48, 49	Nebraska 68, 69	87, 88 New York 00, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14	73, 74 Oregon 97	57 Tennessee 37, 38	20, 22, 23, 24 Washington 98, 99
Alaska 99	Connecticut 06	Illinois 60, 61, 62	Louisiana 70, 71	Minnesota 55, 56	Nevada 88, 89	North Carolina 27, 28	Pennsylvania 15, 16, 17, 18, 19	Texas 75, 76, 77 78, 79, 88	West Virginia 24, 25, 26
Arizona 85, 86	Delaware 19	Indiana 46, 47	Maine 03, 04	Mississippi 38, 39	New Hampshire 03	North Dakota 58	Rhode Island 02	Utah 84	Wisconsin 53, 54
Arkansas 71, 72	Florida 32, 33, 34	Iowa 50, 51, 52	Maryland 20, 21	Missouri 63, 64, 65	New Jersey 07, 08	Ohio 41, 43, 44, 45	South Carolina 29	Vermont 05	Wyoming 82, 83
California 90, 91, 92, 93, 94, 95, 96	Georgia 30, 31, 39	Kansas 66, 67	Massachusetts 01, 02, 05	Montana 59	New Mexico	Oklahoma	South Dakota	Virginia	Washington DC 20
	Hawaii 96								

How It Works: Just plug it in to your TV and pull in Free TV channels in crystal clear digital picture with no cable, satellite or internet connection and no monthly bills

P6362A OF16994R-1

In the news

Fla. medical pot campaign funded

Two top Democratic fundraisers in Florida have committed to providing the money and know-how to get the question of legalizing medical marijuana on the state ballot in 2014. "I'm prepared to keep raising money and writing checks until I get the signatures to put it on the ballot," attorney John Morgan said. Morgan, who routinely hosts presidents and national political figures at his Orlando-area home, recently signed on as chairman of People United for Medical Marijuana-Florida, a grassroots campaign that operated on a shoestring until now. The group lacked the money to wage a high-profile campaign and couldn't collect enough signatures to get the proposal on the ballot in November. **REUTERS**

GETTY IMAGES

Yahoo gets app — and ex-employees

Yahoo Inc. acquired a small mobile start-up company that was founded by former employees of the struggling Web portal two years ago. Yahoo did not disclose the price of its deal to acquire Jybe, which developed a mobile app that recommends movies, books and restaurants based on data contained in social networks.
Yahoo said it would shut down the Jybe service, while five Jybe engineers and data scientists, all ex-Yahoo staffers, would focus on Yahoo's efforts to bolster its product lineup. Since Marissa Mayer became Yahoo's chief executive she has made several small, so-called acqui-hires. **REUTERS**

▶ A new crop for Florida?

New poll: Majority of Americans now supports benefits for same-sex couples

JUSTIN SULLIVAN/GETTY IMAGES

▶ A new poll suggests a majority of Americans supports giving these two the same benefits afforded to heterosexual couples.

As the Supreme Court prepares to decide whether the federal government may deny benefits to same-sex married couples that it allows their heterosexual counterparts, Americans seem already to have made up their minds.

Fifty-five percent of those surveyed said married gay and lesbian couples should be able to qualify for Social Security survivor payments and other benefits provided to married heterosexual couples, according to Reuters/Ipsos polling of 2,886 people between March 5 and March 14.

69%

The Northeast was the region with the most support, at 69 percent, versus the South, with 57 percent supporting the benefits.

Majority support for such benefits was seen across all regions of the United States, even in the traditionally more conservative South.

That widespread support emerges just before the Supreme Court takes up a pair of momentous gay rights cases next week, one testing whether the government may deny benefits to same-sex married couples without violating the Constitution's guarantee of equality. **REUTERS**

Stakes are raised

Study: 1 in 50 children has autism

As many as one in 50 U.S. school-age children have a diagnosis of autism, up from one in 86 in 2007, with much of the increase involving milder cases, suggesting the rise is linked to growing awareness and better testing methods, government researchers said. In line with previous estimates, boys in the research were four times more likely to be diagnosed with autism than girls, according to the study, which is based on American parent reports of autism diagnoses in 2011-12 compared with 2007. Autism can range from highly functioning individuals to those with severe speech and intellectual disabilities. In general, individuals struggle with difficulties in communication, behavior and social interaction. **REUTERS**

▶ It's food for thought.

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MON-SAT: 10AM-9PM | SUNDAY: 11AM-6PM

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THE PLAZA AT THE KING OF PRUSSIA MALL
KING OF PRUSSIA, PA
UPPER LEVEL ADJACENT TO TOMMY BAHAMA
MON-SAT: 10AM-9PM | SUNDAY: 11AM-6PM

myentertainment

THE WORD

Dorothy Robinson's take on the world of gossip @dorothyatmetro dorothy.robinson@metro.us

The feed ...

▶ Checking in with some of Hollywood's biggest names to see what they've been up to — in their own words, in 140 characters or fewer.

Today, Katy Perry is making up for lost time, Marlon Wayans isn't putting too much thought into things and Kristen Chenoweth feels betrayed by her food.

@katyperry: About to watch Wayne's World. For the first time...

@MARLONL WAYANS: You don't have to figure life out... It has its way of figuring itself out

@KChenoweth: Dear Chipotle sandwich, stop hurting my stomach!

Is Corey Feldman moonlighting as a sperm donor?

Yesterday, I wrote about the **Jackson family**'s wrongful death lawsuit against AEG Live for $40 billion and how AEG wants to get the paternity of Jackson's children entered into court proceedings. The Jackson family are fighting this, calling into question who actually is the father of **Blanket**, **Paris** and **Prince Jackson**. And upon further reflection (and Googling), I am pretty confident that the father of Prince Jackson is none other than **Corey Feldman**. These pictures don't lie, friends.

And here's Lindsay Lohan's latest mug shot

Here is **Lindsay Lohan**'s latest mug shot, taken at the Santa Monica Police Station on March 19 in Santa Monica, Calif. Lindsay was ordered to turn herself in for booking after pleading no contest to the charge of reckless driving, providing false information to an officer and willfully resisting, obstructing or delaying an officer. Lindsay. Girlfriend. Brush your hair before your booking photo. Didn't your previous 400 arrests teach you anything?

▶ Lohan

GETTY IMAGES

Tweeted.

▶ How could anyone not love that face?

'Kill that dog' says fan about adorable puppy

And this is why tweens are ridiculous: When One Direction member Liam Payne took to Twitter to introduce Loki, the adorable new puppy he and girlfriend Danielle Peazer share, he probably wasn't expecting fans to respond with death threats, but that's exactly what happened. The announcement of the puppy garnered responses along the lines of "I'll kill that dog" and "The dog is not going to see tomorrow if I can help it." One fan, at least, was willing to stand up for the pup, tweeting, "Just remember that Loki can't help who his owner is, so he doesn't deserve hate."

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Flirt it up, Ms. Gomez

1: Selena Gomez flashed a smile on Tuesday while visiting "Late Night with Jimmy Fallon" in New York City.

2: P. Diddy signed autographs for fans on Tuesday as Ciroc and Maxim celebrated the National Day of Honor in San Diego.

3: North Korean peacemaker **Dennis Rodman**, dressed the only way Dennis Rodman knows how, had a laugh at "The Jay Leno Show" on Tuesday.

5: Actress **Kristin Chenoweth** posed for photos on the red carpet for the Opening Night Gala at "The Bible Experience" on Tuesday in New York City.

6: Duchess of Cambridge **Kate Middleton** visited young children at the offices of Child Bereavement UK on Tuesday in Buckinghamshire.

1: THEO WARGO/GETTY IMAGES
2: CHELSEA LAUREN/GETTY IMAGES
3: NBC/GETTY IMAGES
4: DAVID WOLFF-PATRICK/GETTY IMAGES
5: ILYA S. SAVENOKR/GETTY IMAGES
6: WPA/GETTY IMAGES

4 After a rough month, could the Biebs' thumbs-up be a sign that he's taking it all in stride? The singer performed at the Palais Omnisports de Bercy in Paris on Tuesday.

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10 REASONS TO HIT THE MOVIES

2 'Olympus Has Fallen'
In this patriotic "'Die Hard' in the White House" action flick, the only man who can save the president (Aaron Eckhart) and thus the country from North Korean terrorists is a Scotsman (Gerard Butler). It co-stars Melissa Leo.

3 'The Croods'
Nicolas Cage's reported financial problems certainly have nothing to do with his vocal appearance in this animated film about a prehistoric family learning lessons. We only now noticed that it features a story credit from John Cleese. How stoopid could it be?

4 'Admission'
Tina Fey stars in a movie she didn't herself write, which worked out so well the last time it happened ("Baby Mama"). She plays an uptight alternative high school admissions officer who may or may not be undone by free-spirited Paul Rudd.

Must-see

MICHAEL MOLLER

▶ Former tween stars are the leads in Harmony Korine's "Spring Breakers."

'Spring Breakers'

1 Selena Gomez, Vanessa Hudgens and Ashley Bensen dirt up their good-girl reputations playing collegiates-turned-criminals in a T&A-fest directed by Harmony Korine, whose last movie was "Trash Humpers." James Franco plays a grilled-out, cornrowed gangster named Alien who endlessly chants "Look at my s—."

5 'Upside Down'
This $50 million European production stars Jim Sturgess and Kirsten Dunst as star-crossed lovers who live on opposites sides of a planet with double gravity. There's also something about "the secret of the pink bees."

6 'On the Road'
Jack Kerouac's unfilmable novel finally gets filmed — featuring KStew! Sam Riley and Garrett Hedlund play Sal Paradise and Dean Moriarty, who speed around America, visiting an all-star cast. Everyone's ignoring this release, but it's better than it had to be.

7 'The We and the I'
In the latest from Michel Gondry — the result of a four-year project with kids from a Bronx after-school arts program — he hangs out on a city bus with rowdy but lovable high-schoolers.

8 'No'
In this rollicking Chilean docu-dramedy, Gael García Bernal plays an ad wiz hired to head the campaign to oust monstrous dictator Augusto Pinochet from power. Spoiler: It worked!

9 'Like Someone in Love'
Iranian filmmaker Abbas Kiarostami ("Certified Copy") travels to Tokyo to make this mordant portrait of miscommunication amongst a cell phone-addicted prostitute, her elderly john and her oblivious fiance.

10 'Stoker'
Park Chan-wook ("Oldboy") makes his American debut with this Gothic potboiler about a deranged high-schooler (Mia Wasikowska) who discovers that her errant uncle (Matthew Goode) is a serial killer. Nicole Kidman co-stars. ● MATT PRIGGE

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TV watch list

▶ "Grey's Anatomy" has come a long way.

'Grey's Anatomy'

DRAMA. When we first met our favorite Seattle Grace doctors back in 2005, many of them were mere interns. Now they're coming to terms with the idea that they co-own the hospital. Oh, the self-doubt that will ensue! The pressure! The tension! The melodramatic voice-overs! **9 p.m., ABC**

'Scandal'

DRAMA. "House" star Lisa Edelstein stops by to guest as a CEO who had an illicit affair with a Supreme Court nominee. **10 p.m., ABC**

'The American Bible Challenge'

GAME SHOW. If you're one of the people who thinks the devil in the History Channel miniseries actually did look like President Obama, then you may be the target audience for this Jeff Foxworthy-hosted show, which is back for Season 2 tonight. **Season premiere, 9 p.m., Game Show Network**

'The Ben Show with Ben Hoffman'

VARIETY. What? A Backstreet Boy in action? Catch it while it lasts! Brian Littrell, the band's lead singer, joins the night's sketches, as does Jason Ritter. **10 p.m., Comedy Central** MATTHEW JACOBS

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A change in pressure

‘The Bends’ centers on a reunion gone awry ‘The director talks about ‘building discomfort’ and being passive-aggressive

Janice Rowland and Megan Slater get tipsy in “The Bends.”

JOHN FLAK

Charlie DelMarcelle and Janice Rowland face off onstage.

Flashpoint Theatre Company is continuing its female-centric season, “XX,” with “The Bends,” a play by Megan Mostyn-Brown about women on the verge of a nervous breakdown. The show focuses on Gemma, a best-selling author who comes home to reunite with old college friends. And then, says director Kathryn MacMillan, things get complicated.

Is the audience going to be surprised by twists and turns in “The Bends”?

Oh, yes. [Laughs] During this process, I had a lot of great conversations with Megan. One of the things she said was it was important that these characters have a Midwestern energy. This really spoke to me because, like Megan, I went to college in the Midwest and the people I met were, at best, incredibly warm and kind and, at worst, extraordinarily passive-aggressive. You’ll see this in the play — a building discomfort, an aggression that eventually explodes — but, before that’s possible, starts to hiss out through the seams of people’s politeness. Being their best selves and showing that to the world — it’s important to these characters. But it breaks down for every single one of them in the play.

A diver can get the bends from surfacing too quickly to adjust to the change in pressure. How does that relate to the play?

That’s an important metaphor for Gemma. When there’s a “change in pressure” in the room she becomes paralyzed, psychologically. The show is inspired, in part, by the Radiohead song of the same title. Larry Fowler, the sound designer, played with electronica elements as a nod to Radiohead and juxtaposed these against natural elements.

Why is this show timely?

Without giving too much away, there are secrets revealed in the play about the characters’ pasts. These are reminiscent, in a way, about the recent Steubenville verdicts. Like that case, the play raises questions about how our culture allows us to treat each other, both our bodies and our eternal sacred selves.

Do you think every woman has friends like the ones in the play?

Sadly, these characters don’t have friends — although they wouldn’t say that. They’d say that yes, they are still friends with this core group from college. But these aren’t friends I would want. They aren’t generous with one another — they’re self-centered and hard to like. It’s one of the great surprises of the play, the way Megan has given us characters who are hard to like sometimes, but who are nonetheless easy to care about — or feel passionately about, at least.

If you go

‘The Bends’
Through March 31
Off-Broad Street Theatre,
1636 Sansom St.
$15-$22, www.flashpointtheatre.org

Rachel Vigoda
rachel.vigoda@metro.us

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▶ Get out and date — and let go of the fear of getting hurt.

We make so many romantic decisions in the name of "not getting hurt," as if we're dainty pieces of china that can't be put back together. God forbid we break a little. This fear controls us, and we let it push us around.

Some people close themselves off completely, pretending they "don't need a relationship," and settle just for sex. Others get involved with people who are bad for them because they're "safe" — figuring that as terrible as they are, at least they'd never leave. There are also the ones who sabotage potential relationships before they can get off the ground, thinking: "I'm going to hurt you before you get the chance to hurt me." And of course, many of us fear putting our feelings on the table because of what could happen if they are not returned. (We could get hurt! Ahh!)

The problem with living this way is that we're missing out. No one reaches their full potential living in fear. That's just as true in romantic relationships as it is in the rest of our lives.

Why is getting hurt romantically so scary? Would it really be the worst thing in the world? Is it actually something worth guarding ourselves against at all costs?

I would argue no — for the simple reason that getting hurt is temporary. Much of our fear of heartbreak is attached to the notion that we'll never be the same after it happens. We fear that we'll be in the eating-ice-cream-out-of-the-container-in-pajamas stage indefinitely. But that's simply not the case. We can't stay heartbroken forever. After about six months, our bodies snap us out of it and we start to move on. Sure, there may be pangs here and there, but in the end you turn out OK. In that sense, there's something empowering about getting hurt. It's a test of our strength, and it lets us know we can win against our fear.

You're not the delicate flower you think you are. I'd never wish a broken heart on anyone — but if it happens, know it will heal eventually. It could be rough for a bit, but a few rough months certainly beat a lifetime of unfulfilling relationships.

*— **Amber Madison** is a Manhattan-based relationship expert and dating coach. She is the author of 'Are All Guys Assholes?' for which she traveled the country, spoke to over 1,000 men and discovered that the answer to this question is no. You can follow her on Twitter @ambermadi or online at www.ambermadisononline.com*

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"No one reaches their full potential living in fear. That's just as true in romantic relationships as it is in the rest of our lives."

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mystyle

9 Trends from Fall 2013

After four grueling fashion weeks — New York, London, Milan and Paris — we distilled the biggest themes that came down the runways
Here's what you can expect to wear next fall

Back to black

In NYC, one message was clear: Fall is going to be all about wearable items. And let's face it, nothing in your wardrobe is more versatile than black. It's no surprise, then, that the color ruled the runways.

Tina Chadha
tina.chadha@metro.us

Plays on texture

Forget clothes in plain wool or cotton — designers used luxurious textured fabrics such as high-shine pony-hair, wooly alpaca and quilted leather to add a layer of interest to their fall looks.

Menswear inspired

Borrowing from the boys has been popular for the past few seasons. Designers further explored the trend for fall with slouchy trousers and tailored suiting.

Oversized coats

Besides the tremendous amount of fur on the runway (is PETA still doing its job?) there was another ubiquitous outerwear trend: coats in oversized proportions and exaggerated cocoon shapes.

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Pink gets its day

The color pink gets a bad rap as an uncool girly-girl shade — but that's about to change. Come fall, expect to see standout items in every permutation of the hue, ranging from soft blush to bold fuchsia.

A lady in the house

For those of you who don't do androgyny, feminine staples such as peplum tops, full skirts with longer hemlines and pencil skirts with cinched jackets gave collections a polished, ladylike feel.

Plaid

Whether you go '90s grunge a la Saint Laurent or the more formal route with houndstooth and Prince of Wales checks, as shown at Tommy Hilfiger, expect to be part of the plaid parade.

Winter white

People anxious about getting side eyes for wearing white in the cold seasons can finally put that fear to rest. Designers showed full looks in dreamy pale shades.

Embellishments

The decoration was especially in-your-face, with shimmer on top of crystal on top of metal on top of feathers. No matter what your trimming of choice is, there was an option for you on the runway.

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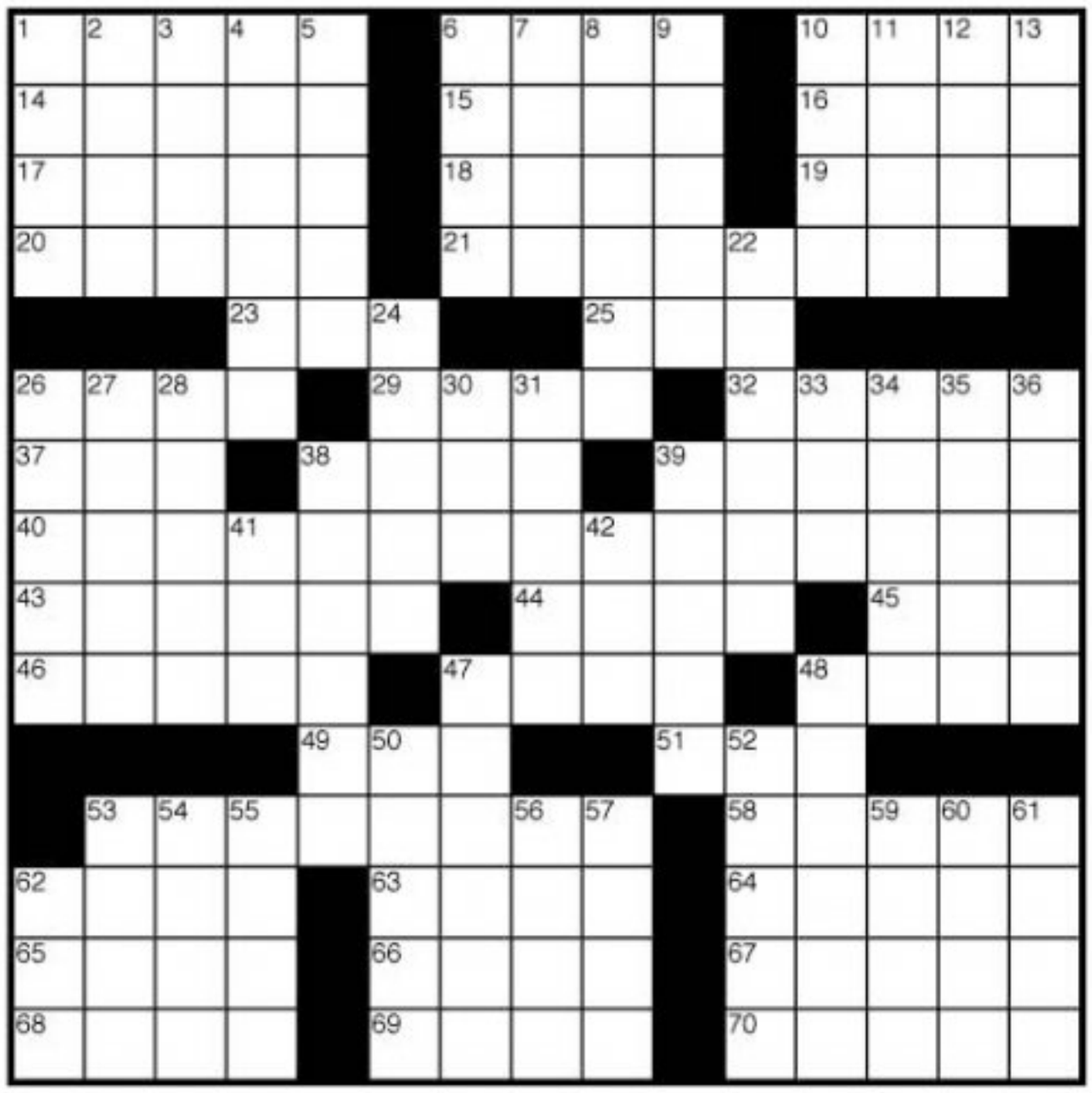

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35 Says decidedly
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38 Swear to
39 Faint flicker
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Horoscope

♈ Aries **March 21-April 19.** Usually you can maintain an upbeat attitude, but it might take everything in your power not to let a sour temperament take over.

♉ Taurus **April 20-May 20.** When around people who have something worthwhile to say, you should do more listening than talking. You'll find much useful information that will come in handy down the line.

♊ Gemini **May 21-June 20.** Focus your efforts on endeavors that could contribute to your financial well-being. Two unrelated opportunities that might come your way — seize both of them.

♋ Cancer **June 21-July 22.** One of your greatest assets is the ability to take control of a situation and wrest something valuable from it, and you'll get a chance to do this today. You'll know how to delegate effectively.

♌ Leo **July 23-Aug. 22.** Your goals can best be achieved by operating in a manner that doesn't generate much attention. Quietly do your own thing while letting others do theirs.

♍ Virgo **Aug. 23-Sept. 22.** One of the major reasons behind the current spike in your popularity is your genuine concern for others. Sincerity builds strong bonds of friendship.

♎ Libra **Sept. 23-Oct. 23.** If you're too wishy-washy to make your own decisions, your colleagues will happily make them for you. Unfortunately, you might not appreciate the results

♏ Scorpio **Oct. 24-Nov. 22.** A lesson you've learned from painful past experience will be wisely utilized. You aren't likely to repeat a mistake that you made in a similar situation.

♐ Sagittarius **Nov. 23-Dec. 21.** Your instincts are likely to be a shade sharper than usual when it comes to important personal matters. You'll heed your hunches and use them effectively.

♑ Capricorn **Dec. 22-Jan. 19.** Diplomacy and tact are your two greatest assets, especially regarding your friendships. Situations that normally could be a bit testy won't get a chance to go south.

♒ Aquarius **Jan. 20-Feb. 19.** Any assignment that requires your immediate attention should be given top priority. You're won't have any peace of mind if you ignore important mattes that need tending to.

♓ Pisces **Feb. 20-March 20.** You won't need to be around a ton of people to have a good time. In fact, hanging out with a few special friends could produce all the fun you need.

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Solution to yesterday's crossword

Letters

There are plenty of stages, but the subway is not one of them

I have grown very tired of sitting on the subway and being forced to listen to "entertainers" loudly play accordions, trumpets and every other type of instrument. Then there are the annoying teenage break dancers/"acrobats" that swing millimeters from your face from the subway bars. It is illegal for a good reason. A subway car is a confined space, much too small and ill-equipped for blasting radios and performing dance routines. Some people have psychiatric and medical conditions that are aggravated by this nonsense. Also, most of these "performers" are just plain awful! It is not entertaining but annoying!

JAMIE CONNOR, VIA EMAIL

When times get tough, Obama gets golfing

RE: "SOMEONE'S POUTING, BUT IT'S NOT OBAMA" (METRO, MARCH 19) It seems some of your readers have been misguided into blaming Congress on the lack of a budget in Washington. President Obama has been late four out of the last five years submitting a budget on time. When he does submit a budget, it is nothing but excessive spending. Our government is intentionally designed this way. It is referred to as a checks and balances system. Since Obama has taken office, each American's share of the national debt has ballooned from $28,000 to almost $52,000. That means everyone in your household: man, woman and CHILD currently owes $52,000. So you see, Congress is looking out for our children and their children and each of you should be as well. As far as White House tours, the White House belongs to the taxpayers, the Obamas are merely guests in our house and it should not be closed. There have been several news commentators who have sent letters to the White House offering to pay the $75,000 a week to keep the White House open and the administration has not replied. The amount of money spent for President Obama to fly to Florida to golf with Tiger Woods was enough to keep the White House open for two months — once again, it's not an income problem but rather a spending problem. Explain those presidential priorities to the children who did not get to tour the White House. **JOEY WHITMOYER, VIA EMAIL**

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Temple in underdog role again in NCAA tourney

Owls looking to break bad luck against NC State ◗ School hasn't advanced far in recent years ◗ Wolfpack favored to win ◗ Five seniors on a real mission

Temple makes the NCAA tournament every year — or, more exactly, the Owls have qualified for the past six years in a row. Despite all that success, they have just one win to show for it, a buzzer-beating win over Penn State in 2011.

This time, No. 9 Temple faces another uphill climb against a North Carolina State (No. 8) team that advanced all the way to the Sweet 16 last year. For the Owls, led by five seniors (Khalif Wyatt, Rahlir Hollis-Jefferson, Scootie Randall, T.J. DiLeo, Jake O'Brien), this is a last shot at glory.

"For this to be a year where we have five seniors, this would be a good run for us and I think we can make a lot of people turn their heads," Randall said.

It would be a Cinderella ending for them. However, the talking heads aren't buying it. The pundits call N.C. State a bad matchup for Temple and point to coach Fran Dunphy's 2-14 overall record, including his time at Penn, in the Big Dance.

"We really haven't proven anything in March," said Wyatt. "I can understand why everybody's choosing N.C. State." METRO

Temple

- **Did you know?** Temple hasn't advanced to the Sweet Sixteen since 2001, with John Chaney.
- **Last time out:** Fell to UMass last week in the A-10 quarterfinals, 79-74
- **Who to watch:** Khalif Wyatt (19.8 ppg), Scootie Randall (11.8 ppg)

NC State

- **Did you know?** N.C. State coach Mark Gottfried led Alabama to the Elite Eight back in 2005.
- **Last time out:** Fell to Miami last week in the ACC semifinals, 81-71
- **Who to watch:** C.J. Leslie (14.9 ppg), Richard Howell (12.7 ppg)

▶ Leslie

Official watch party scheduled

Temple fans can gather at Field House, located at 12th & Filbert streets in Center City, for the official watch party hosted by Temple Athletics. Festivities will begin at 1 p.m. (tip-off is slated for 1:40) and include light snacks and drink specials. The team left for Dayton, Ohio, yesterday. METRO

ON TV FRIDAY

Temple (23-9) vs. N.C. State (24-10), 1:40 p.m.

GETTY IMAGES

▶ DiLeo, shown here in the Atlantic 10 quarterfinals loss to UMass, is one of five Temple seniors looking to advance.

3

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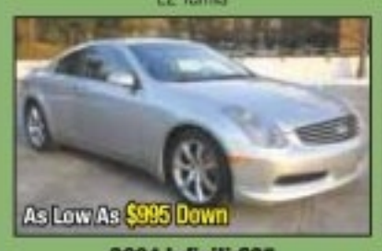
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Fantasy sports

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GETTY IMAGES

▶ Circle Bryce Harper on your cheat sheet.

As fantasy baseball drafts get into full swing, we can't be afraid to splurge for the guys we want. Last year, **Andrew McCutchen** was a buzz guy who was thrown out by some as being "overdrafted." Big mistake. This year, these are the guys worth circling with a green highlighter and reaching for.

The Natural

Bryce Harper was never a sleeper. He was the best 19-year-old in the history of baseball and will likely be the best 20-year-old ever as well. At this point, it's just a contest to see how high we're willing to take him. Considering Harper projects to see his homers and steals rise toward the 30/30 level as he matures, the end of the first round is not crazy. He'll be batting third, between **Jayson Werth** and **Ryan Zimmerman**.

Chapped up

When guys have dominant talent, we take them and let the chips fall where they may. **Aroldis Chapman** is a perfect example of this. He might start, he might close, he might be capped at 200 innings. But no matter what, we know he's going to be an asset in fantasy.

Golden Boy

Paul Goldschmidt burst onto the scene last year with 20 homers in 136 starts. That's child's play. In 2011, Goldy smashed 30 jacks in just 457 plate appearances while playing in Double-A. Now settling into an everyday role, the power upside is huge.

NFL news

Amended slot

Danny Amendola is four years younger than Wes Welker, two inches taller and is capable of playing outside. Along with Aaron Hernandez, he'll be a fantasy monster.

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What can Brown do for Phils fans in '13?

GETTY IMAGES

▶ Brown has a team-leading six home runs this spring in 22 games for the Phillies.

After Domonic Brown fouled off a pair of tough 2-2 breaking balls, a Phillies fan let the one-time top prospect have it.

"C'mon, you're dropping your hands again," the fan said in a game against Detroit. "Can't you do anything right?"

Brown, 25, followed that up by blasting a prodigious homer over the batter's eye in center. The 450-foot shot shut up the fatalist Phillies fan.

Before camp commenced, there was considerable doubt shrouding Brown. Pundits and fans were skeptical if the one-time, highly touted player, who turned down a University of Miami football scholarship, would ever pan out.

After two injury-marred seasons, it appears Brown is putting it all together.

"I know I can help this club win," Brown said. "I know I have the ability to make a difference. Coming in here, I knew I had to stay healthy and remain focused."

Brown, who broke a bone in his hand during spring training two years ago and suffered through a variety of injuries last season, is in the best shape of his life.

"I added about 10 pounds of muscle," Brown said while pointing to his chest. "I feel good."

More importantly, he looks great at the plate.

"I've cut down my swing," Brown said. "I've talked to Charlie [Manuel] a lot about hitting. I can't think of anyone who knows more about hitting than Charlie. He has helped me cut the long swing. All I do is think about hitting. When I go to bed at night, that's what I'm thinking about, and that's what I think about during the day."

He's been so impressive that Manuel hinted last week that Brown would be his starting left fielder on Opening Day.

"He's doing what he has to do," Manuel said. "We all know what he's capable of."

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City of Philadelphia Public Hearing Notice

The **Committee of the Whole** of the Council of the City of Philadelphia will hold a Public Hearing on **Monday, March 25, 2013,** at, **10:00 AM** in **Room 400, City Hall,** to hear testimony on the following items:

130178 An Ordinance to adopt a Capital Program for the six Fiscal Years 2014-2019 inclusive.

130179 An Ordinance to adopt a Fiscal 2014 Capital Budget.

130180 An Ordinance adopting the Operating Budget for Fiscal Year 2014.

130190 Resolution providing for the approval by the Council of the City of Philadelphia of a Revised Five Year Financial Plan for the City of Philadelphia covering Fiscal Years 2014 through 2018, and incorporating proposed changes with respect to Fiscal Year 2013, which is to be submitted by the Mayor to the Pennsylvania Intergovernmental Cooperation Authority (the "Authority") pursuant to the Intergovernmental Cooperation Agreement, authorized by an ordinance of this Council approved by the Mayor on January 3, 1992 (Bill No. 1563-A), by and between the City and the Authority.

Immediately following the public hearing, a meeting of the Committee of the Whole, open to the public, will be held to consider the action to be taken on the above listed items.

Copies of the foregoing items are available in the Office of the Chief Clerk of the Council, Room 402, City Hall.

Michael Decker
Chief Clerk

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